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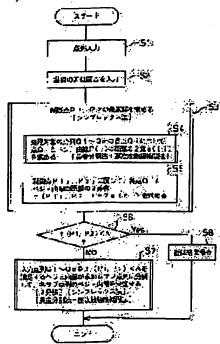
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(54) METHOD FOR APPROXIMATING POINT SEQUENCE



(57) Abstract:

PURPOSE: To obtain a parametric function approximating a locus of a point sequence without deciding a position of a control point in advance. CONSTITUTION: Optimum solutions P1, P2 of control points of a ternary Bezier curve are obtained by the simplex method being a 1st solution of the nonlinear programming (step S3). Square sums f (P1i, P2i) of a shortest distance from each point of a point series to the Bezier curve using objects P1j, P2j of optimum solutions of control points as an objective function of the simplex method (steps S4, S5). The (golden section + successive parabolic interpolation method) being other solution of the nonlinear programming is used in the steps \$4, \$5. Or when all of the input point series cannot be approximated by one Bezier curve, the point sequence is being divided into sub point series by the bisection method being a 3rd solution of the nonlinear programming and each sub point sequence is approximated by a Bezier curve (step S7). The sub point

sequence is referred to as a longest point sequence approximated by a given approximation degree.